



The Canal Zone Philatelist



Vol. 32, No. 2

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Whole No. 119

Vice President's Report

Jim Crumpacker

P.O. Box 1836

Las Vegas, NV 89125

The first quarter issue of *CZP* contained the initial President's Report column by our new chief executive, Tom Brougham, of Berkeley, California. He was welcomed aboard by a big pie in the face, i.e., the organizational difficulties attending this year's Mail Sale.

The wheels of change grind slowly, and the gears sometimes grate. By now you will have received a separate mailing, the notice of the 1996 CZSG Mail Sale. This Sale represents a departure from all our previous efforts. That a Sale is being held at all is a tribute to Tom's organizational skills, cajoling, and perhaps the gentle use of a truncheon.

Since the various consignors' lots always go to one person at one address, the perception of the members is that a single individual does nearly all of the work. The reality is actually that of a collective enterprise, especially in the areas of catalog production and getting the lots assembled and mailed.

From the internal viewpoint our current Financial Statement shows a sound fiscal situation. A publication schedule of books, handbooks, and *The Canal Zone Philatelist* does require ongoing fiscal nurture. The Mail Sale is an important source of funds.

We are playing it by ear, and the ears we would like to hear from are yours. Give us your comments once you have had a chance to examine the Sale catalog. The incremental improvements can be carried over the years. In any event, we do fully plan to revert to the previous format in 1997.

Meeting Notices

CZSG Meetings are scheduled at:

STAMPSHOW 96, August 22-25, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida. Contact: Bob Karrer.

SESCAL 96, October 4-6, Wyndham Hotel, LAX, Los Angeles, California. Contact: David J. Leeds.

Check the programs for time and place. All are welcome.

ABNCo Specimens of the Type I Overprints

by David J. Leeds, James W. Crumpacker,

Gary B. Weiss, and David T. Zemer

The Canal Zone American Bank Note Company (ABNCo) Specimens were introduced in a previous issue of *The Canal Zone Philatelist*, 115:9/13. The 1915/1920 Pictorial Series was covered in *CZP* 116:26-29; a complete Checklist is in *CZP* 117:37-40. This present article addresses the first of the Panama Portrait Series archived specimen overprints, Type I, Scott #31-35, Canal Zone stamps where the manufacturer applied the overprint.

The American Bank Note Company printed the stamps for the Republic of Panama with one exception from 1892 through 1936. The only exception was during the "Taft" epoch when the Hamilton Bank Note Company provided the issue of 1906-1907, Scott #21-26. The Taft Agreement required that Panama would supply its own stamps overprinted Canal Zone, for which it was reimbursed 40% of face. Following the Hamilton stamps

somewhat similar designs were used by ABNCo. It is interesting that in some cases stamps were issued with Canal Zone overprints before the basic stamp was put into use by Panama. The Panama Portrait stamps (Scott 1c #197, 2c #198, 5c #200, 8c #213, and 10c #201) were originally printed for Panama in 1908. Most were put into use in 1909, essentially at the same time as the Canal Zone overprinted issues. However, the 8c was not required by Panama until 1916. A characteristic of these issues is the mixed up printing orders, their overprinting for use by the Canal Zone, and the independence of the two postal systems in their requirements. The Panama ABNCo archive material was also auctioned by Christie's in their September 1990 sale.

An important aspect of archive and plate control was achieved by the ABNCo Index Cards, as described in an important paper by James B. Helme, published in *The Collectors Club Philatelist*, Volume

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1996 Mail Sale

Material to be considered for inclusion in the 25th Annual Mail Sale should be sent to the following CZSG members, each of whom will handle part of the sale. Certificates are required for First Issue and #15. An inventory must accompany all consignments. Please ship insured or registered.

Send stamps to:

Richard Bates
P.O. Box 40583,
Palisades Station
Washington, DC 20016-0583

Send covers, stationery, mem.

books to:

Bradley Wilde
5311 West University Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75209

To be considered for inclusion, material must be received no later than July 3rd.

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**The Canal Zone
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Los Angeles, CA 90049

The Canal Zone Philatelist (USPS 556-140) is published quarterly for \$8.00 per year, which includes membership in the Canal Zone Study Group, 1749 W. Sauvignon Dr., Tucson, AZ 85746. Second-class postage paid at Tucson, AZ. POSTMASTER: Send address changes and complaints of non-delivery to the Secretary, John C. Smith, 408 Redwood Lane, Schaumburg, IL 60193.

Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone or FAX the Editor: (310) 472-0282. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

Secretary's Report

John C. Smith
408 Redwood Lane
Schaumburg, IL 60193

As of May 10, 1996 our membership stands at 852 members including 59 hold-outs. As always, we will do our best to retrieve them by sending out at least two reminder notices.

The American Philatelic Society is having their STAMPSHOW 96 in Orlando, Florida this August 22-25. Plans are formulating to have a CZSG meeting. We need a local volunteer to assist Bob Karrer in coordinating the details. If anyone is interested in helping out at the CZSG Meeting or at the Affiliates Table please contact us as soon as possible. Your help is needed; your participation is important to keep our hobby alive.

The Study Group is pleased to mention that we have 40 members living in 11 foreign countries: Panama (13), England (7), Canada (4), Germany (3), Netherlands (3), Denmark (2), Japan (2), Norway (2), and one each in the following: Czech Republic, Netherlands Antilles, Wales.

All back issues of the CZP and handbooks are available. They can be ordered by writing Richard Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

If anyone has a fellow collector who might be interested in receiving a complimentary copy of our journal please send me the name and address — I'll send a copy immediately.

New Business Manager

After 12 years (1983-1995) as Business Manager, Lawson Entwistle has relinquished this position. It has been his pleasure to serve the membership in this role which involved liaison with the Post Office for mailing the *Canal Zone Philatelist*, as well as personally handling the mailing to members in foreign countries. We thank him for the many years of service in this capacity.

And now we welcome our new Business Manager, Sherwood "Jim" Baxter. Jim was approached for this position at ARIPEX in January 1996 and after due deliberation came up with a "yes." You will find his Arizona address (Business Office) in the current masthead, and we trust it will remain there many years.

R.H. Salz

Type I ABNCo Specimens

(Continued from page 13)

70, Number 2, March-April 1991, pages 97-124, "Panama: American Bank Note Co. Index Cards: Issues Other than Airmails". These cards, approximately 9 inches wide and 6 inches high, contain a great deal of information, all presented in the Helme article, including engravers' names, dates, colors, die numbers, and plate size. Examples of trimmed die proofs and/or the specimen (overprinted and punched) stamps were usually attached to the Index Cards. The postal stationery specimens were folded into a letter size manila envelope attached to the cards. Since the Canal Zone ABNCo stamps were actually ordered by, and delivered to, Panama before being turned over to CZ authorities, there is an intimate relation between the issues of the two postal administrations. Additional study will be required to exploit these data. Any study of these overprinted specimens should have the Helme article as parallel reading.

ABNCo control of the plates and printings was achieved by identification with the foreign job numbers ("F" numbers), which eventually were engraved on the plates. In addition, they were always handstamped in red on the top sheet selvage of the archived production run sheets. These handstamped numbers are not seen (or included) on sheets of the regularly issued stamps.

A reorder requiring additional printing from the same plates carried the same engraved (first) job number but would have the later job number handstamped in red usually in the top or a convenient margin, see CZP 115:12, Fig. 6. The numbers appear to be chronologic regardless of the country for which they were being printed. There can be a problem in

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Type I ABNCo Specimens

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Fig. 1. ABNCo F2116, CZSG 31.A, 1c.



Fig. 2. ABNCo F2116, CZSG 32.A, 2c.



Fig. 3. ABNCo F2116, CZSG 33.A, 5c.

identification of the early issues as numbers were not actually engraved on the plate until about 1911. The first engraved "F" number found on the Canal Zone archive sheets was F2986 "2". This will be illustrated in sequence as the stamps are discussed. It is a late printing of the 5c stamp (Scott Panama #200) and requires a rather complex explanation. The "2" indicates that it is a new (second plate), but carries the original, earlier, Panama "F" number. The archive date of the original Panama stamp is not available but may have been preserved in other records.

Much more important is the red "F" number that appears on each specimen sheet. The "F" number identification of each of the specimen stamps has been maintained by our group by means of a pencil notation on the reverse of each stamp. The sheet position is also indicated, and an arbitrary identification (if more than one sheet was preserved) as to which sheet. Multiple sheets are indicated as "A", "B", or "C". This does not imply a ranking, merely that there was more than one sheet, varying from unmarked if one or lettered as indicated.

One of the most important findings of this preliminary study is that the specimen material does not correlate exactly with the widely held beliefs discussed in *Canal Zone Stamps (CZS)* relating to the various printings. We emphasize that CZS was derived essentially from 1940 data; the ABNCo findings were not available to the earlier researchers.

The Type I overprint series, Scott #31-35, carries the earliest red handstamped "F" number found on the Canal Zone material, F2116. It is on all sheets of the denominations of the set: 1c, 2c, 5c, 8c, and 10c included with this first order. The 8c, while part of the original F2116 order, was not released on the Zone until 4 months after the other values. This may reflect an effort to dispose of an oversupply of existing 8c stamps on hand, or delay by Panama because of lack of need for the denomination.

While this first ABNCo print job to contain stamps that would be overprinted Canal Zone by the manufacturer was F2116, the stamps used the plates that had been developed for an earlier Panama job, F1518. The ABNCo Panama archive lot (without the 8c) contained

Table 1: Job No. F2116 Type I

Denomination	Scott#	CZSG#	Sheets	Qty	SPECIMEN	C/Z Spacing
1c	31	31.B	2 (A, B)	194	20mm Roman,	10.0mm
2c	32	32.A	2 (A, B)	200	14mm Italic*	8.5mm
5c	33	33.A	2 (A, B)	200	14mm Italic*	8.5mm
8c	34	34	3 (A,B,C)	300	20mm Roman	8.5mm
10c	35	35	1 —	90**	20mm Roman	8.5mm

Note: No engraved "F" numbers. See below for varieties.

CZSG Numbers: The CZSG numbers above meet the descriptions of the Canal Zone overprintings in CZS.

Quantity: Indicates surviving quantity (sheet total minus missing or damaged). It was agreed that all damaged stamps would be destroyed except for reference sets to be sent to the several expertising organizations.

Date: Rubber stamped date that production sheets were sent to Archive Room.

Bold: Bold lettered sheets are those with "Return to Issue Room..." handstamp.

* The "14mm Italic" SPECIMEN is a nominal dimension. From bottom tip of the S to bottom stroke of the N measures 13.7mm; bottom tip of the S to top tip of the N measures 14.1 to 14.2mm.

** This quantity is the original number available from the sale. All copies are currently lost.

Varities: 1c, F2116, Sheet A, 9.75mm spacing, positions 21, 41, 51.
1c, F2116, Sheet B, 9.75mm spacing, positions 1, 41, 51.
No varieties were observed on the other denominations.

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Type I ABNCo Specimens

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Fig. 4. ABNCo F2116, CZSG 34, 8c.



Fig. 5. ABNCo F2116, CZSG 35, 10c. (Photo is against white background so perfs do not show.)

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material of F1518 dated April 8, 1908. The stamps, of course, lacked the engraved F#.

The second listing of ABNCo print dates of the basic Panama design was August 4, 1909, again without the engraved F# but with the handstamped red F2116. It was this printing that corresponded to the first shipment of Type I overprints to Panama in October 1909. This matches Table 1.

The Canal Zone portion of the F2116 order in the archives contained two sheets each of the 1c, 2c, and 5c, three sheets of the 8c, and a single sheet of the 10c. Illustrations of each of these 1909 printings are shown as Figs. 1 through 5. Photocopies of the full sheets exist for all five denominations. Unfortunately, the whereabouts of the 10c sheet is unknown. Anyone being offered a 10c Type 1, Scott #35 with the specimen overprint should contact one of the authors or the president of the Canal Zone Study Group.

It is uncertain why there were three sheets of many of the issues and only one or two or no sheets of others. Notations on the Index Cards indicate withdrawal of some stamps and sheets, with some removed as late as 1985. The purpose and location of these withdrawn specimens are also not known, and they do not appear to have entered the philatelic market. Some few were used in display frames and ABNCo albums, and many may have been destroyed. Even the "full" sheets occasionally had from several to 10 or more stamps missing. All of the F2116 sheets are dated August 4, 1909, and all of the specimen overprints are red. It is curious that two different type specimen overprints were used on the same order. All of the sheets may not have been prepared for the archives at the same time, or different press setups may have been available. Table 1 gives details of the F2116 printings.

We have no explanation for the fact that the 1c stamp in this 1909 order F2116 fits the description of CZSG 31.B rather than 31.A. Further study of the stamps, the specimens, and dated covers may resolve the question. This article can only present the data of the specimens, leaving an interpretation of the details to follow.

Panama has a third listing (F2689 or F2659) in the order book, dated September 1910. This may be the shipment chronicled in *Canal Zone Stamps* as September 12, 1910 but no Canal Zone archive specimens are identified with it. It has been suggested that from the punch hole size and location of the specimen overprint it is probably order F2659.

There was a reorder of the 1c, 2c, and 5c Canal Zone overprinted Type I stamps. The order again included both Panama (unoverprinted) and Canal Zone (overprinted) stamps. This is the fourth ABNCo listing of the Panama Portrait series.

They are identifiable in the sheets by the new red F2932 handstamped on the top selvage. Both Panama and Canal Zone sheets are red handstamped F2932, and all dated May 26, 1911. The three F2932 specimens of the late printings are illustrated as Figs. 6 through 8. Scott makes no distinction and lists both printings as Type I; the overprints on the stamps are actually dimensionally different as described in *Canal Zone Stamps*, and confirmed by the specimen sheets of the two printings. All of the F2932 sheets are dated May 26, 1911, and have a red italic 14mm specimen overprint. One sheet is known of the 1c, and two sheets each of the 2c and 5c. The "A" sheets are handstamped "Return to Issue Room..."

The unnumbered 1c stamp may require a new listing as a major printing rather than as a variety. The archive holdings do not conform to our former ideas of the early and late printings. This sheet conforms to the dimensions of the previously listed 2c 32.C and the 5c 33.B. There is little question that this is a late printing; however, "as issued" multiples have not been reported of the 1c. It is also missing from several collections checked. There are large multiples of the 2c 32.C, and a single and covers with the 5c 33.B. The question arises, was this printing of the 1c ever issued? The subject will be treated in greater detail in later CZSG publications. Examples of these late printings are solicited by the authors.

The two job numbers (with printing dates) and published data of shipment dates should permit us to give quantities issued of the two (early and late) printings. Both orders were the same. Two million each of the 1c and 2c of each printing, and one million for each of the two printings of the 5c. How these figures relate to the shipping is unclear. The subject needs further study. It may well be that ABNCo had stock on hand of the early printings which they supplied with their late shipments. Or they could have pressed their earlier plates into use while new plates were being prepared. This would nullify the proposed counts relying on the total number shipped rather than the exact number produced of a given printing, but does not account for missing types.

The two printings of the 1c, 2c, and 5c should be found in equal numbers. Since there was only one variety of the 8c and 10c, all of the early printing, no distinction is necessary.

These specimens raise some difficult new questions, and additional information is requested from owners of large multiples or dated usages. The two printings listed in CZS, CZSG 31.A and 32.B, are not found in the ABNCo archives. How these "printings" relate to

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Type I ABNCo Specimens

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the two known ABNCo printings of the Type I found in the archives remains speculative.

The fifth Panama listing of ABNCo print orders is dated March 1913 and matches Type II, which will be treated in a future article.

Table 2: Job No. F2932 Type I

Denom.	Scott	CZSG	Sheets	Qty	Engraved F#	SPECIMEN	C/Z Spacing
1c	31	—	1 (—)	100	None	14mm Italic	8.5mm
2c	32	32.C	2 (A,B)	200	None	14mm Italic	8.5mm
5c	33	33.B	2 (A,B)	200	F2896 "2"	14mm Italic	8.5mm

Notes:

The 1c has the usual 8.5mm spacing between Canal and Zone. CANAL is 11.0mm long; ZONE is 8.7mm. These dimensions do not fit a CZS variety.

Varieties:

The 1c has Canal/Zone spacing varieties: Pos. 6 and 58, 8.9mm; Pos. 60, 7.8mm; Pos. 73, 9.2-9.25mm (same as Scott #46); also there is a workup in Pos. 93. There are no varieties observed on the 2c or 5c.

*

The basic plate for F2896, first printed for Panama in April 1911, did not have an engraved F#. It is obvious here that a second plate was produced and that engraved numbers were in use by April/May 1911. The "2" is reversed.



Fig. 6. ABNCo F2932, CZSG 31, 1c.



Fig. 7. ABNCo F2932, CZSG 32.C, 2c.



Fig. 8. ABNCo F2932, CZSG 33.B, 5c
(Note centerline "T" on 1c and 5c.)

Review of CD-ROM

by David L. Farnsworth

A Royal Geographical Society Electronic Guide: The Panama Canal, published in 1994 by InterOptica Publishing Limited, 1213 Shui On Centre, 6 Harbour Road, Hong Kong, phone (852) 824-2868, on a disk compatible with both IBM and Macintosh CD-ROM drives.

There is very little on this CD-ROM. It is at the high school level or lower. This reviewer found the 20-minute experience of watching it mostly boring and even aggravating. To say something positive, this is a first in this format for Panama material.

The upfront menu has ten categories: Slide Show, History, Triumphs & Scandals, Biographies, Facts & Figures, Video, Maps, Design & Construction, Travel Info and Glossary. They are connected interactively, so that, for example, the terms in the Glossary are highlighted for clicking individually in the text sections.

The Slide Show is just that. A still picture is shown, music is playing and the narrator discusses a topic. The narrator says things such as "without Balboa there would be no canal 400 years later." Then, there is a dead silence and the next slide is shown. In Biographies, a few paragraphs each are given in text form for only de Lesseps, Bunau-Varilla, Stevens, Gorgas and Goethals. Maps contains just one simplistic and uninteresting map. Travel Info is one of the better sections with text about such things as Panama's weather and hotels, including rates.

The Video section is the biggest disappointment. It is just 90 seconds long, has unrelated music, and no narration at all. One sees ships in the canal, an explosion and construction scenes, and is not told what they are. The other five sections are mediocre. There is a reasonably well produced clickable advertisement for other InterOptica CD-ROMs.

[Editor's Note: The CD can be obtained through at least one interlibrary loan system.]

No. 48, Pair on Cover

by Tom Brougham

The first reported multiple of the Type III 5 cent, Scott #48, on cover, the third reported first printing, CZSG 48.A, cover is shown in Fig. 1. Until about 10 to 15 years ago no full covers bearing #48 had been reported. Since then information concerning the three first printing covers and at least half a dozen covers bearing single copies of the second printing, CZSG 48.B, has been circulating among CZ cover buffs.

All of the three reported covers of the first printing of #48 are illustrated. The pair (Fig. 1) of #48, dated January 5, 1916, pays the 10 cent registration on a large envelope addressed to the U.S. The reverse of the cover is shown with the Ancon and Cristobal registry marks.

Fig. 2 illustrates another registered first printing, dated January 15, 1916, also Ancon. The cover has a 10c #37 paying the registration fee, plus two Panama *timbres* (revenues) and the 1/2c #196. The rationale for the Panama revenue stamps is unknown since they would not even pay Panama postage. The cover is addressed to Germany. It has a New York January 23 "Rec'd (2) Foreign" marking and a Hamburg February 14 arrival. Not bad considering wartime conditions. The sender used the New York German Consulate as a return address so there is the probability that the mailing was for a collector. The cover is shown through the courtesy of Brad Wilde.

The third first printing cover (Fig. 3) is a single to Sweden from Ancon May 7, 1916(?). The cover was held for a considerable time by British Military Censors. The Stockholm receipt appears to be August 15, 1919(?).

Note: All covers are shown reduced 50%.

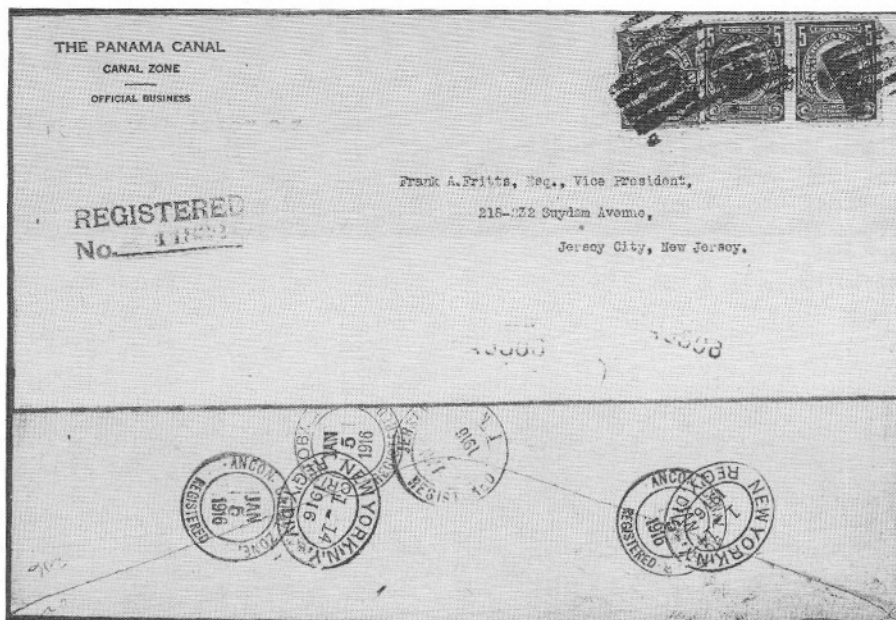


Fig. 1. Pair of #48 Type III First Printing. Ancon January 5, 1916.



Fig. 2. Single #48 Type III First Printing, Ancon January 15, 1916.

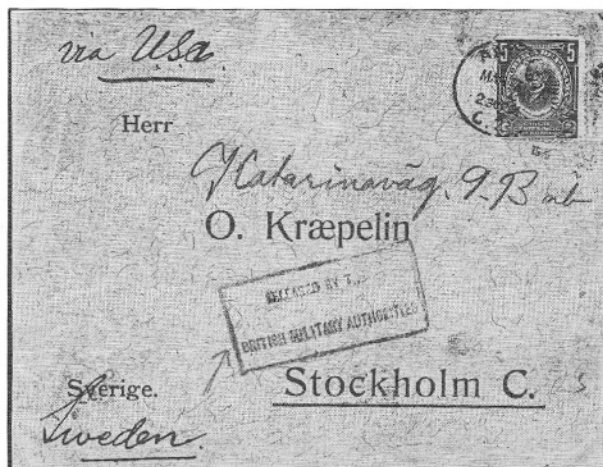
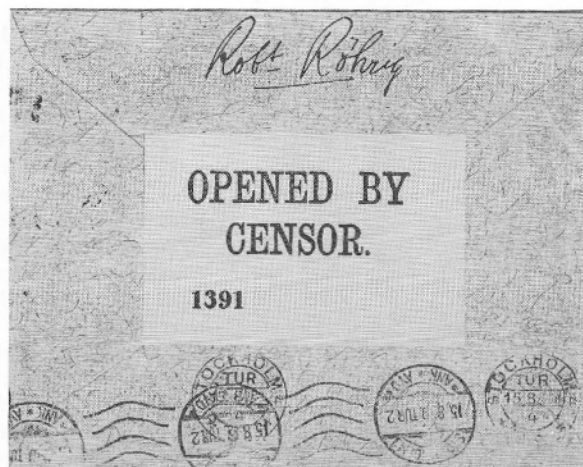


Fig. 3. Single #48, Type III, First Printing, Ancon May 7, 1916.



Backstamps of Fig. 3.

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No. 48, Pair on Cover

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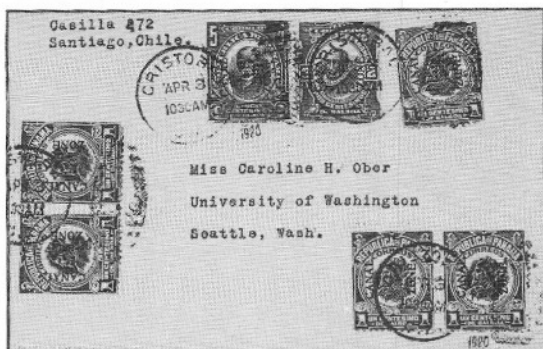


Fig. 4. Single #48, Type III, Second Printing, Cristobal April 3, 1920.

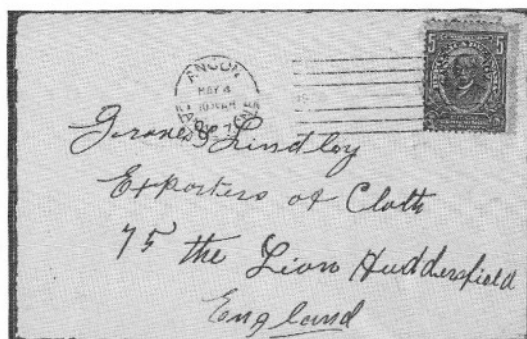


Fig. 5. Single #48 Type III Second Printing, Ancon, May 4, 1920.

The earliest second printing cover (Fig. 4) in this group is dated Cristobal April 3, 1920. It is addressed to Seattle, Washington. It is in combination with five #52's and one #53. This combination is normal for the date of this cover. At that time #54 had not been issued. Additionally, the #47 and #46 second printings were also not yet issued. Thus the three stamps on this cover are the ones of these common denominations which would have been found in the post office on that date. Possibly this cover was prepared to be registered since it has the correct total postage. The return address and the imprinted "U.S. & Pacific Line/New York" on the reverse indicates that this letter may have been picked up on shipboard. There is no indication on the envelope that it carried 5 to 6 ounces to satisfy the postage.

Another second printing single cover is illustrated in CZP 61:29 postmarked Balboa, April 7, 1920 to England.

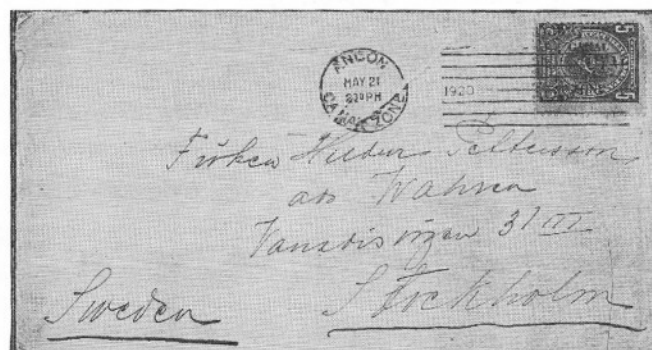


Fig. 6. Single #48 Type III Second Printing, Ancon, May 21, 1920.

The first #48 cover actually reported (Fig. 8) was a front, from the Editor's collection (Ex-de Voss; Leeds, WSP 1983, 1984) dated Ancon, May 4, 1920, addressed to England. It was exhibited in World Series of Philately competitions in 1983 and 1984.

Another single on cover (Fig. 9) dated Ancon, May 21, 1920 to Sweden is also from the Leeds' collection.

Can anyone report other first printing #48 or any multiples on cover? Please contact the author or Editor. [The Editor will illustrate any other #48 covers to add to this inventory. Send us good copies.]

Early Registry Service

by G.B. Weiss

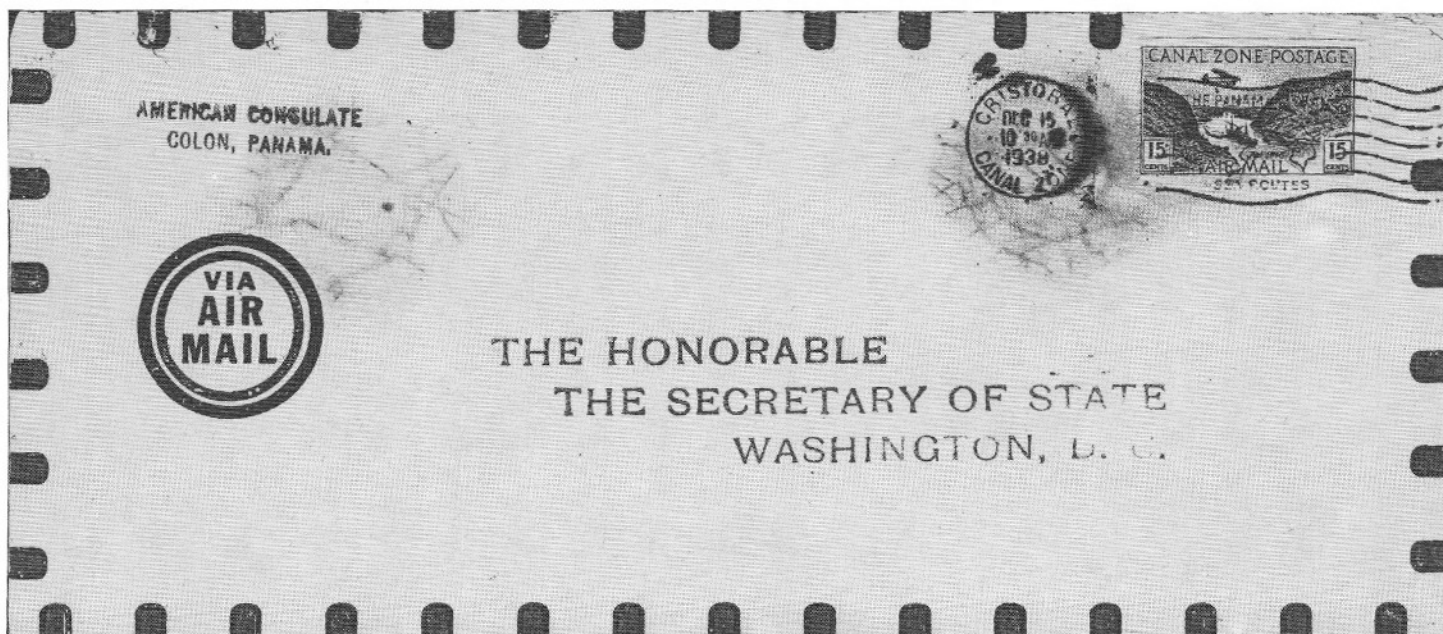


Registered Cover from Ancon, No. 15.

In an important series of articles on the early registry service (CZP 44:17,24; 45:21-22) Thomas Brougham described the incredible rarity of covers from the pre-exchange period (before Sept. 8, 1905). At the time of publication of Brougham's article (1977) only 2 examples were known, both to the U.S.

A third example can now be reported. The cover was correctly offered as the earliest known registered cover from the Canal Zone to a foreign destination. It has philatelic franking with five different stamps (Scott # 9-10, 12-14) and was mailed from the Director of Posts to Dresden, Germany. The stamps are tied by two August 28, 1905 Ancon, Station A cancels. The cover has a manuscript "15" as the registry number as well as a New York registry label. The cover bears a New York registry marking of September 11, 1905 on the reverse as well as a blue crayon "208".

The scarcity of registered covers from this period seems certain but other covers must exist. Can any readers report on additional examples?

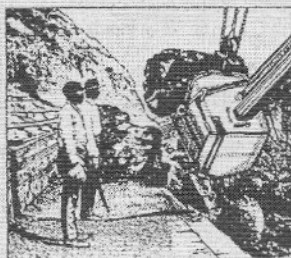
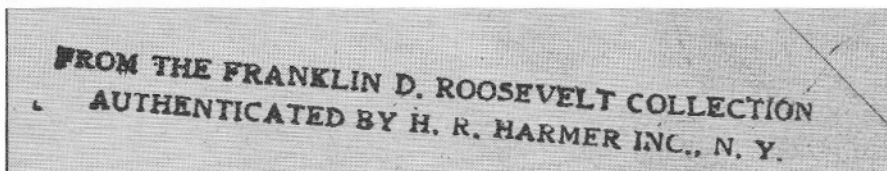


Typical Roosevelt Collection Cover.

The Roosevelt Collection

Franklin D. Roosevelt was well known as a philatelist. During his tenure boxes of covers were sent to him from the various federal agencies. He also received gifts from foreign governments. At the same time he maintained respectable collections of a number of countries, including Shanghai and Panama. After his death his philatelic holdings were auctioned by H. R. Harmer, Inc. of New York. Each album page and rather common covers were rubber stamped for authenticity by the auction house. The location of the Panama collection is known, but, what happened to the Canal Zone? It would be interesting to know what was in the collection, as well as its present whereabouts. A collection did exist. On the occasion of FDR's 1935 trip through the Canal a Canal Zone collection was assembled from contributions of local collectors and presented to him by one of the postal officials. It contained older as well as current issues and was reported to be complete except for the half dozen rarities. Can one of our members respond?

David J. Leeds



This series highlights the contributions of those who played key roles in the construction of the Panama Canal. It is dedicated to each of the 75,000 men and women whose efforts led to the opening of the Canal on August 15, 1914.

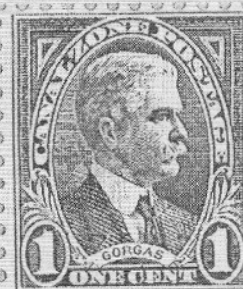
Among all of the people who worked to build the Panama Canal, a humble and dedicated U.S. Army medical doctor, Col. William Crawford Gorgas, the Panama Canal's first chief sanitary officer, is credited with making the most important contribution. Indeed, many believe that, had he not been there and had he not, through a series of fateful experiences, been wise in the ways of yellow fever and malaria on the Isthmus, the Canal would have taken much longer to complete and would have

Canal builders...

cost much more, both in money and in human lives and suffering.

Although Gorgas was a member of the medical team in Cuba after the Spanish-American War that demonstrated that both malaria and yellow fever are carried by mosquitos and had mobilized the massive campaign that had eradicated mosquitos and disease from that island nation, he endured ridicule and the ignorance of even his own colleagues when he tried to put the same methods into practice when he arrived on the Isthmus in June of 1904. In spite of receiving little or no initial support for his work in Panama and being urged by friends to resign, he stayed determinedly on. A little more than a year later, when John F. Stevens became Canal chief engineer, Gorgas was finally given full backing, and, in 1907, Gorgas himself was appointed a member of the Isthmian Canal Commission.

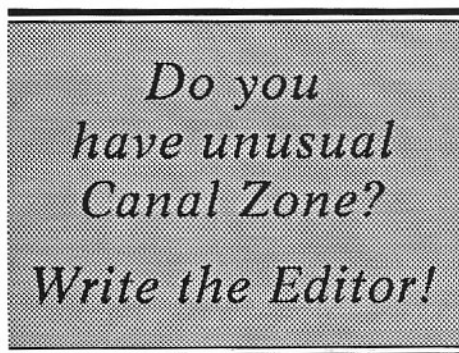
Ancon Hospital was renamed for Gorgas shortly after his death on July 4, 1920, as was the princi-



William C. Gorgas

pal street that runs through that medical compound. A one cent Canal Zone postage stamp was issued in his honor on October 3, 1928. A memorial plaque, placed by Spanish American War veterans at what is now Gorgas Army Community Hospital in Ancon is dedicated to William Crawford Gorgas, "Soldier of Humanity," "... in his memory and as a reminder to the living that 'Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war.'"

From *The Panama Canal Spillway*, January 12, 1996



C3 Varieties

by Paul F. Ammons

Varieties of the first issued Canal Zone provisional 25¢ on 2¢ air mail stamps are described in *Canal Zone Stamps* but have not been illustrated.

There were five printings. In the first four printings, CZSG No. C3.A, probably a total of 190,000, the width of the "AIR MAIL" overprint is 14.5mm. The spacing between "AIR MAIL" and "25 CENTS 25" is 17mm. These first through fourth printings are both clear, light inking, and thick dark inking sub-varieties. (Fig. 1.)

The fifth printing, of 100,000 (probably half of which were destroyed) has a 14 mm width for "AIR MAIL", and a spacing

between the lines of 16.5mm. It has light blue inking only. (Fig. 2.)

These measurable dimensional differences can be used to differentiate the two varieties. The fifth printing is much scarcer than the printed quantities would indicate since about half of the fifth printing was destroyed. On January 1, 1930 the rate dropped from 25¢ to 20¢ so there was no further need for the 25¢ stamps.

Broken letters are also noted. There is a very prominent short left legged "A" in "AIR" on CZSG C3.A. It has been noted on single copies and on cover so the position is not known. (Fig. 3.). A rather indistinct broken "M" has also been noted on CZSG C3.B. It does not reproduce well

so is not shown. There are also a few filled in "A"s.

Misplaced entries of the basic stamp also exist. The basic misplaced entry, CZSG 106.1, as noted in *Canal Zone Stamps*, occurs in at least two positions. Since only lower panes were overprinted C3.1 Position 19UL, Plate Number 115186 cannot exist. Large blocks have not been examined so the location of CZSG C3.1 is only known with respect to a lower plate number: 94LL or 95LR, plate number 115185. Resolution of this uncertainty by examination of large blocks would be helpful.

Correspondence and photocopies are solicited from other members to confirm and expand these comments. Address care of the Editor, or CZSG Secretary.

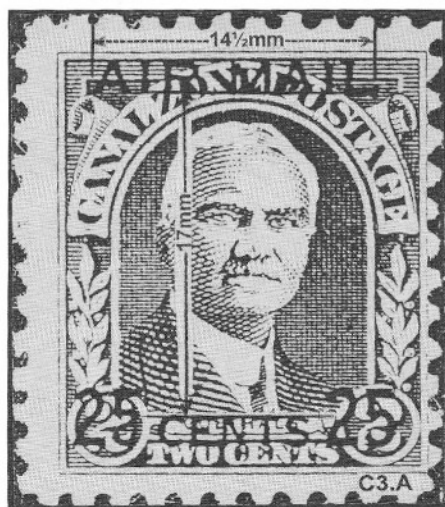


Fig. 1. CZSG C3.A
1st through 4th Printing.
Light and dark inking.

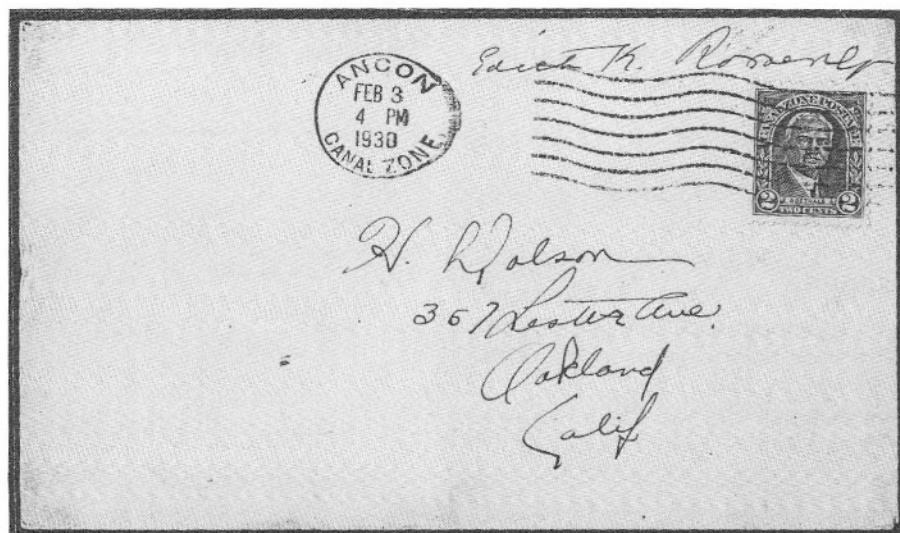


Fig. 2. CZSG C3.B.
5th Printing.
Light inking only.



Fig. 3. CZSG C3.A, Broken A.

Edith Roosevelt



Frank of Edith Roosevelt from the Canal Zone.

The widows of United States presidents have usually been accorded a franking privilege for first class mail. This is a presidential courtesy and is not automatic. Edith Kermit (Carow) was Theodore Roosevelt's second wife, married in 1886, two years after the death of Alice Hathaway Lee. Presumably President Taft granted Edith Roosevelt the franking privilege after Theodore's death in 1919. It is not known if the frank was valid beyond the conterminus 48 states. Apparently she did not think so, hence the addition of the 2¢ Canal Zone stamp on the cover shown. Perhaps one of our readers can tell us if her frank would have been valid, and what she was doing on the Isthmus in February 1930. Guest of the Governor? Just passing through? She would have been about 65 years old at the time.

Are there other presidential or president's widow's franks known from the Canal Zone or from other possessions?

D.J. Leeds

Auctions

by Jim Crumpacker

This report covers auctions which took place in the first quarter, January 1 through March 31, 1996. The period was extremely active with several good offerings of errors and plate blocks. The new (and generally much higher) catalogue prices brought out the consignors even though Scott's values for errors, which are more auction-driven than dealer-driven, did not change as much from a year ago as did prices for the basic numbers.

The selling price is shown first followed by the catalogue value in parenthesis from the 1996 Scott's Specialized, and commission is included.

A fair amount of "never hinged" earlier material was offered. Keep in mind that the Scott's values are for hinged stamps before number 118.

- 1, OG, H, F-VF \$363 (\$550) Bennett
- 1, OG, H, VF \$834 (\$550) Ivy & Mader
- 1, 2, 3 VG-VF on F-VF cover, Cristobal 7/5/04 to USA \$990 (\$890) Bennett
- 2, VF on F-VF cover, Ancon 6/27/04 to Cristobal \$121 (\$240) Bennett
- 6, used, VF \$53 (\$65) Cee-Jay
- 6, imprint strip of 3 w/pl #1885-L, dist. OG, HR, F \$474 (475) Drews
- 7, OG, NH, F+ \$198 (\$175) Bennett
- 7, OG, NH, VF \$345 (\$175) Ivy & Mader
- 10a, inverted overprint, OG, HR, F \$207 (\$250) Ivy & Mader
- 13 var., spaced A L in CANAL, OG, H, F, margin blk 4 with 3 normals \$127 (\$260) Bennett
- 14b, CANAL ZONE inverted, OG, H, VF \$385 (\$425) Bennett
- 15, TG, H, VF \$2090 (\$3000) Shreve's
- 20c, "8 cts." omitted, OG NH, VF \$688 (\$750) Bennett
- 22a, horiz pair imperf between, TG, H, F+-VF \$770 (\$1250) Bennett
- 22 var. ONE for ZONE, TG, H, VF in blk 4/3 normals \$72 (\$87) Weiss
- 24c, double overprint, TG, H, F \$198 (\$500) Bennett
- 31c, booklet pane of 6, OG, NH, F \$385 (\$750) Shreve's
- 32c, booklet pane of 6, OG, NH, F+-VF \$605 (\$1000) Shreve's
- 33a, double overprint, OG, NH1 F corner margin copy \$231 (\$375) Bennett
- 39e, inverted center with overprint reading down, used, VF \$431 (\$750) Ivy & Mader
- 46, OG, H, F+-VF margin copy, 1st ptg., \$242 (\$180) Ivy & Mader
- 46b, double overprint, TG, H, F \$198 (\$300) Bennett

- 54, OG, NH, F+ \$198 (\$200) Bennett
- 56a, double overprint, OG, H, barely F \$297 (\$575) Kukstis
- 56b, double overprint, one reading down, OG (gum wrinkle), NH, VG margin copy \$275 (\$650) Bennett
- 58, OG, HR, F \$165 (\$275) Cee-Jay
- 60b, booklet pane of 6, TG, H, VF 3 rejoined perfs \$440 (\$1000) Suburban
- 67a, ZONE CANAL reading down, OG, H, F \$495 (\$850) Bennett
- 71c, 71d, CANAL only and ZONE CANAL, TG (one small gum skip), H VF vert pair w/margin \$1840 (\$2200) Christie's
- 71d, ZONE CANAL, OG, H, F+ \$385 (\$450) Bennett
- 71e, complete booklet of 4 panes, sl. dry OG, NH, F+ \$187 (\$500) Bennett
- 84b, ZONE CANAL, OG, H, F \$319 (\$350) Bennett
- 85, Pl. Blk. of 6, #16402-T, OG, NH, F-VF \$138 (\$175) Drews
- 85a, ZONE ZONE, lightly dist. OG, H, F in blk of 12 w/ 11 normals \$495 (\$544) Shreve's
- 86b, CANAL inverted, OG, NH, VG-F in pair w/ normal \$385 (\$954) Bennett
- 86c, inverted overprint, OG, NH, F \$358 (\$500) Bennett
- 86, pl blk of 6, #16332-B, TG, NH, F \$116 (\$165) Kukstis
- 91a, 91c, ZONE only and ZONE CANAL, OG, first NH, second H, F-VF margin pair \$1045 (\$1000) Bennett
- 95, OG, NH VF margin copy \$105 (\$125) Bennett
- 97b, bklt pane of 6, OG NH, VG-VF \$231 (\$650) Shreve's
- 101a, blk pane of 6, OG, NH, F \$110 (\$175) Paradise Valley
- 101a, complete blk of 2 panes, OG, NH, F \$143 (\$350) Bennett
- 104, pl blk of 4, #19257-UL, OG, NH, VF \$198 (\$190) Shreve's
- 117a, bklt pane of 6 miscut vertically, CZSG 117a.1, OG, H, F-VF \$127 (\$n/a) Cee-Jay
- 135, bottom pl blk of 6, OG, NH, VF \$155 (\$350) Drews
- C2, pl blk of 6 #115182-T, OG, NH, F-VF \$748 (\$1000) Drews
- J2, OG, H, VF \$198 (\$350) Bennett
- J14, OG, H, F+-VF \$231 (\$250) Bennett
- J17b, E of POSTAGE omitted, TG, NH, VG-F in pair w/normal \$319 (\$450) Weiss
- J18a, ZONE ZONE, TG, NH, F in pair w/ normal \$1045 (\$1258) Bennett
- J20, OG, H, VF+ \$358 (\$150) Bennett
- J20c, double overprint, OG, H, VF \$440 (\$400) Bennett
- O8, CTO, OG, H, F \$308 (\$675) Bennett

- CO10, CTO, OG, H, F \$116 (\$165) Bennett
- U2b, head and overprint only, mint, VF \$990 (\$1600) Shreve's
- U4, used Ancon 2/16/23, VF \$72 (\$125) Weiss
- UF1, UPSS R1, mint VF \$1045 (\$1500) Bennett

Addresses of the various auction firms are shown below. Please reference CZP when requesting catalogs.

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Cee-Jay Stamp Auctions, Inc.
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32 East 57th Street, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10022-2513

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P.O. Box 130
Scituate, MA 02066

Paradise Valley Stamp Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 8948
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-8948

Shreve's Philatelic Galleries, Inc.
14131 Midway Rd., Suite 1250
Dallas, TX 75244-9084

Suburban Stamp, Inc.
176 Worthington St.
Springfield, MA 01101

Weiss Philatelics
P.O. Box 5358
Bethlehem, PA 18015



CZSG Meeting, May 31, 1997
Sat. 2:00-3:30 p.m.

FAM 5-2 Post-Dated

by Joel A. Hawkins

The return flight of the first CZ/US airmail service from Cristobal to Miami, FAM 5-2 carried a total of 689 pounds of mail. This approximately 50,000 pieces of mail was essentially all machine cancelled at Cristobal, or at the Pacific offices at Ancon, Balboa, or Balboa Heights. Pedro Miguel and Fort Clayton are the only exceptions noted to use a handstamp, since in 1929 they did not have machine obliterations. Therefore the norm for these F5-2 covers is a machine cancel, except for the two small offices indicated above, Fig. 1. Other small offices may have serviced and hand cancelled covers but they have not been noted. Even Cristobal registries received the machine cancel, but without the handstamped first flight cachet.

Since many mailers sent in multiple stacks of covers to be serviced it was inevitable that a few pieces escaped cancellation.

In fact some probably got through without stamps, or with stamps removed. This is the case with a number of the other flights so is presumed possible here.

One of the addressees, Henry O. Meisel of Clintonville, Wisconsin, sent in his own covers for servicing on the flight. He received them uncanceled. Two years later, in 1931 Meisel returned the cacheted but uncanceled covers to Cristobal Postmaster Gerald Bliss with the request that they be date cancelled. As indicated in Bliss' letter, Fig. 2, the request was complied with, producing the only hand cancelled F5-2 Cristobal covers. An example is illustrated, Fig. 3.

Mr. Meisel was not a bashful philatelist. A hoard of CZPS Philatelic Announcement Cards were addressed to him at five different addresses, mostly as the "Postal Indicia Society", "American Metered Postal Society", or to other family members, all in Clintonville, Wisconsin.



Fig. 1. F5-2 Hand Cancels, Pedro Miguel and Fort Clayton.

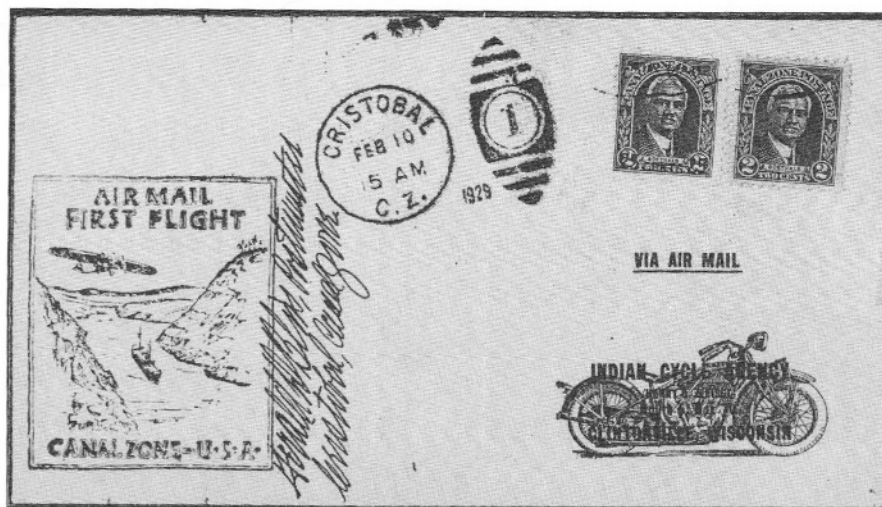


Fig. 2. F5-2 Post-dated Cristobal.

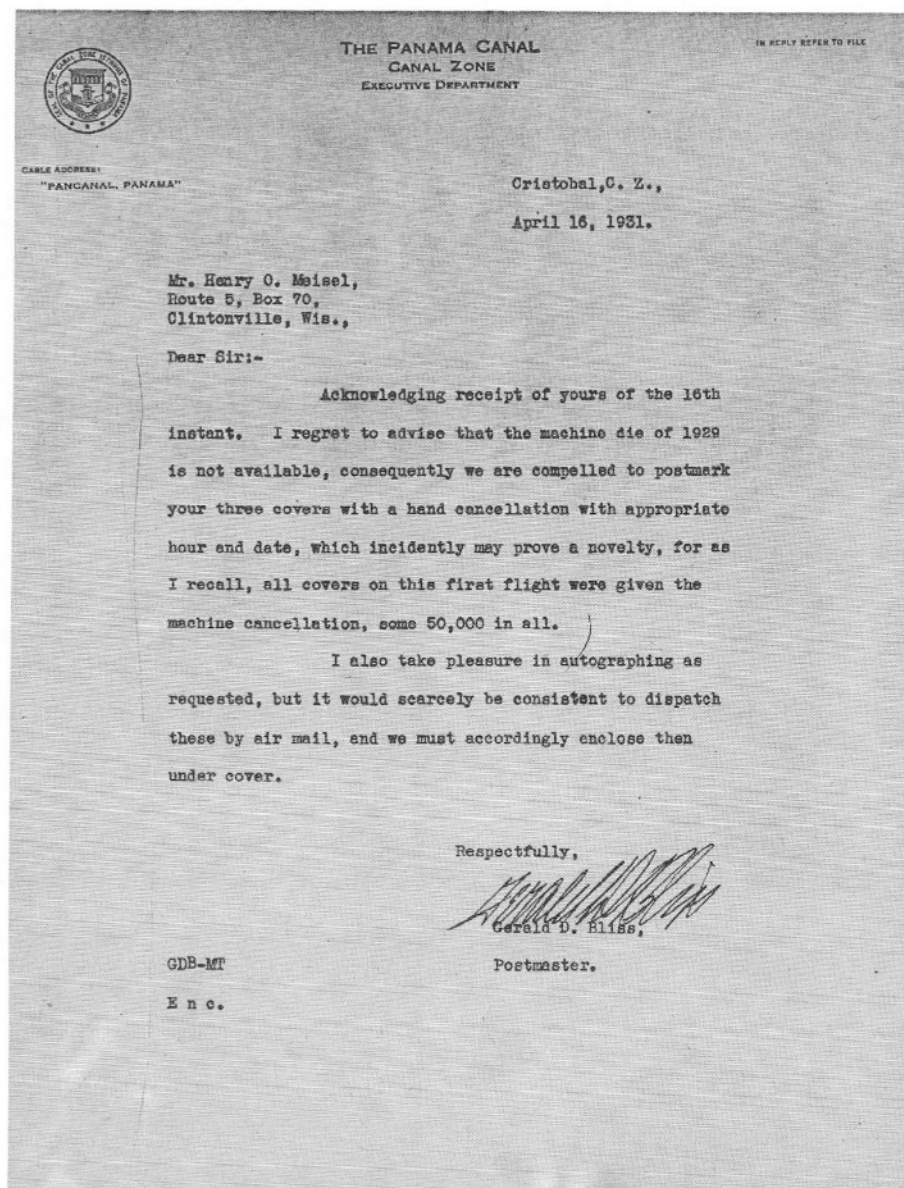


Fig. 3. PM Bliss' Letter to Meisel.

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